

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA  
LAFAYETTE DIVISION**

JESSICA LEJEUNE,	)	
	)	Civil Action No.: 6:20-cv-536
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	Judge:
v.	)	
	)	Magistrate:
HARVEST STRATEGY GROUP, INC.,	)	
	)	Division:
Defendant.	)	

**PLAINTIFF’S COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, JESSICA LEJEUNE (“Plaintiff”), through Plaintiff’s attorney, SCOTT, VICKNAIR, HAIR & CHECKI, LLC, alleges the following against Defendant, HARVEST STRATEGY GROUP, INC. (“Defendant”):

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Plaintiff’s Complaint is based on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (“FDCPA”), 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.*

**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2. This Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1337, and 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.

3. Jurisdiction of this court arises pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d), which states that such actions may be brought and heard before “any appropriate United States district court without regard to the amount in controversy.”

4. Venue and personal jurisdiction in this District are proper because Defendant does or transacts business within this District, and a material portion of the events at issue occurred in this District.

**PARTIES**

5. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in Iota, Louisiana.
6. Plaintiff is a consumer as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
7. Plaintiff allegedly owes a debt as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
8. Defendant is a debt collector as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).
9. Defendant attempted to collect a consumer debt from Plaintiff.
10. Defendant is a collection agency domiciled in Denver, Colorado.
11. Defendant is a business entity engaged in the collection of debt in the State of Louisiana.
12. Defendant's business includes collecting on unpaid, outstanding account balances.
13. The principal purpose of Defendant's business is the collection of debts.
14. Defendant regularly collects, or attempts to collect, debts allegedly owed to third parties.
15. During the course of its attempts to collect debts allegedly owed to third parties, Defendant sends to alleged debtors bills, statements, and/or other correspondence, via the mail and/or electronic mail, and initiates contact with alleged debtors via various means of telecommunication, such as by telephone and facsimile.
16. Defendant acted through its agents, employees, officers, members, directors, heirs, successors, assigns, principals, trustees, sureties, subrogees, representatives, and insurers.

### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

17. Defendant is attempting to collect an alleged consumer debt from Plaintiff.
18. The alleged debt at issue arose from transactions for personal, family, or household purposes.
19. Defendant is not licensed to do business or collect debt in Louisiana.
20. Defendant knew it was collecting debt in Louisiana when it contacted Plaintiff.
21. During collection efforts, Defendant confirmed it was collecting debt in Louisiana.

22. In or around May of 2019, Defendant began calling Plaintiff in an attempt to collect an alleged debt.

23. In or around December of 2019, Plaintiff answered one of Defendant's calls and spoke with one of Defendant's collectors.

24. During the aforementioned conversation, Plaintiff told Defendant's collector that she had no money and to stop calling.

25. Despite Plaintiff's requests, Defendant continued to place collection calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone.

26. Plaintiff repeatedly told Defendant's collectors that she has no money, could not pay the alleged debt, and to stop calling.

27. Defendant's collectors behaved in a rude and harassing manner when talking to Plaintiff.

28. Upon information and good-faith belief, Defendant placed phone calls to Plaintiff's relatives without stating they were calling to confirm or correct location information regarding Plaintiff.

29. Defendant used false, deceptive, unfair, and unconscionable collection practices.

30. Plaintiff suffered mental and emotional distress due to Defendant's illegal actions.

31. Plaintiff suffered financial and economic harm due to Defendant's illegal actions.

32. Defendant's collectors were working within the course and scope of their employment when they communicated with Plaintiff.

33. Defendant's collectors are familiar with the FDCPA.

34. The natural consequence of Defendant's statements and actions was to produce an unpleasant and/or hostile situation between Defendant and Plaintiff.

35. The natural consequence of Defendant's statements and actions was to cause Plaintiff mental and emotional distress.

### **VIOLATIONS OF THE FDCPA**

36. The preceding paragraphs are incorporated as if fully stated herein.

37. Defendant is liable under 15 U.S.C. § 1692b for engaging in improper communications with third parties.

38. Defendant is liable under 15 U.S.C. § 1692d for using harassing and abusive tactics to collect the alleged debt.

39. Defendant is liable under 15 U.S.C. § 1692f for using unfair and unconscionable debt collection methods.

### **JURY DEMAND**

40. Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

Plaintiff respectfully requests that judgment be entered in Plaintiff's favor and against Defendant, including the following relief:

1. An injunction requiring Defendant to cease all collection efforts against Plaintiff for the alleged debt.
2. Statutory damages under the FDCPA of \$1,000.
3. All actual damages suffered by Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.
4. All costs and attorney's fees incurred by Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.
5. Any other relief that this Court deems appropriate.

DATED: April 29, 2020

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

/s/ Samuel J. Ford

Samuel J. Ford, Esq., T.A. #36081  
Scott, Vicknair, Hair & Checki, LLC  
909 Poydras St., Ste. 1100  
New Orleans, LA 70112  
ford@svhclaw.com  
Phone: (504) 684-5200  
Fax: (504) 613-6351  
Attorney for Plaintiff